

COUNTRY

Germany (Soviet Zone)

TOPIC

Military Information from Doeberitz

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DATE PREPARED 7 September 1951

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1. On 7 and 9 August 1951, intensive training activity was observed at the Doeberitz (N 53/Z 65) troop training grounds. About 300 to 400 soldiers were drilling, throwing hand grenades, and combat-practice firing with rifles.
2. Only soldiers obviously employed as guards were seen in Doeberitz-Olympisches Dorf between 2 and 17 August. There were no indications that the billeting area would be occupied by new troops.
3. Troops were seen policing Camp Doeberitz on 11 and 12 August. Soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia cleaned from 24 to 30 trucks in two garages east of the Mehlschleuse. Two other garages sheltered about 10 tanks each.
4. Troops were seen policing the billeting area of the Loewen Kaserne on 10 August. On the morning of 13 August, three units, each of about 400 men, wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia, were seen marching from highway No 103 to the Loewen Kaserne via Muehlenstrasse and Altes Lager, with a band preceding the units. Flags were carried by the troops, and the officers wore white gloves.
5. The following tanks were seen in Rohrbeck:

15 August. Two T-34 tanks, [redacted] moving toward Elsgrund.

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16 August. Nine T-34 tanks, [redacted] and six tanks of another type [redacted] moving toward Elsgrund along an unpaved road north of the Galgenberg.

17 August. T-34 tanks [redacted] moving toward Doeberitz from the direction of Elsgrund. *

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6. [redacted] that a train loaded with tanks left the Doeberitz railroad station on 3 August.

7. JS-3 tanks [redacted] were entrained at the Doeberitz railroad station on 9 August.

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CLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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8. Local residents stated that tanks had been entrained at the Doeberitz railroad station in the morning of 13 August. The tank treads indicated that the tanks had come from Rohrteck.

9. In the evening of 16 August fifteen empty flatcars were in the Doeberitz freight yard. JS-3 tank [] was in the square in front of the station. **

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* [] Comment. The information indicates that, by 17 August 1951, no troops had moved into Olympisches Dorf. Training courses were transferred from there to Wuensdorf during the first half of July 1951. [] In general, it is believed that most of the components of the 1st Mecz Div, to which the tanks mentioned in paragraph 5 of the present report are assigned, were still at their quarters at the time of observation.

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** [] Comment. With the exception of the train which left on 13 August 1951, none of the trains which [] may have carried components of the 1st Mecz Div have been mentioned in previous reports on rail movements. [] that the train of 13 August went to Neustrelitz and carried 20 heavy tanks which probably belonged to the 72d Gds Hvy Tank SP Regt. []

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